



TRUTH AND LOVE

*A WONDERFUL LIFE  
INDEED*

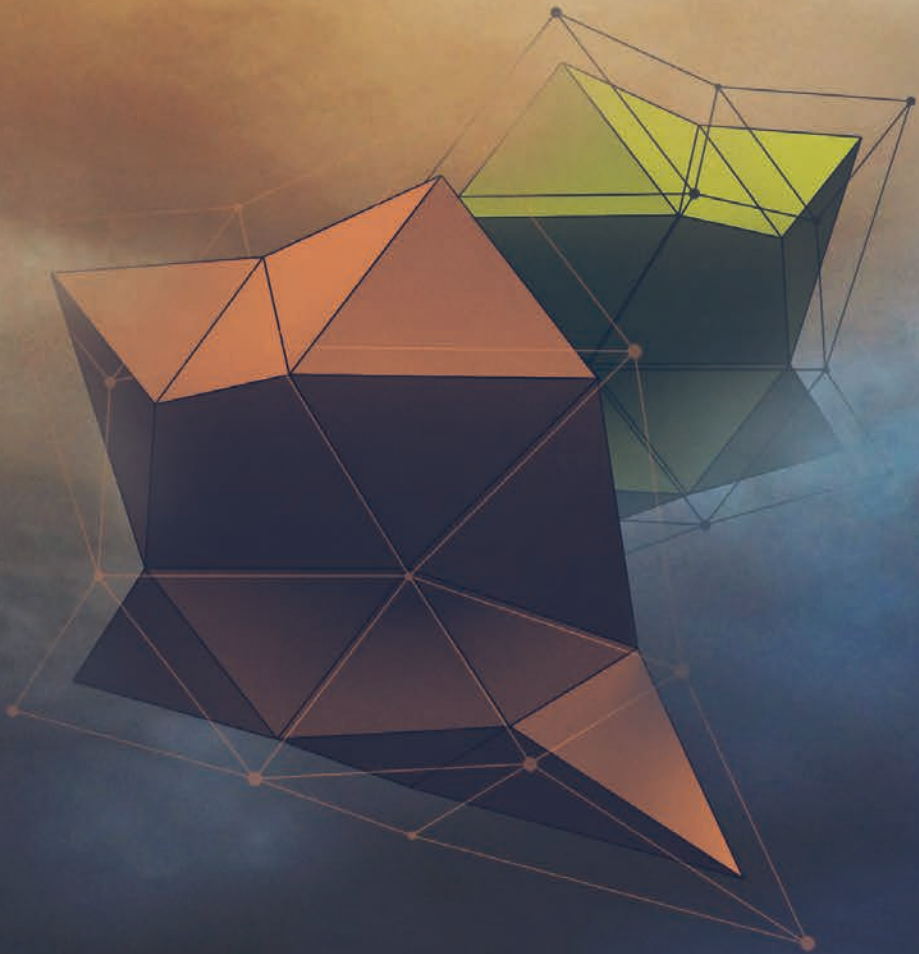
PAGE 16

*SECOND, THIRD,  
FOURTH, FIFTH AND  
SIXTH CHANCES*

PAGE 20

*MERCY FOR THE  
MERCIFUL*

PAGE 24





## BEHIND THE COVER

To create a visual image of an abstract idea - speaking the truth in love - our award winning design team created two polygonal elements and cast them against a brilliant sky. Each polygon is coequal to the other. And although each possesses its own nature and complexity, one can fit together with the other to create something incredible. It's that way with truth and love - they are not mutually exclusive, but are instead partners in the redemptive process.

The background of clouds further reinforces the theme through the dark and bright clouds. The dark clouds represent the hard conversations that must be undertaken and experienced from time to time, while the brighter clouds represent God's call to his children to let their words be seasoned with grace.



# CONTENTS

04

## MORE THAN NUMBER ONE

*Taylor's eighth straight number one ranking in U.S. News is only part of the story.*

06

## THE RETURN OF THE WILD WEST

*A collection of Western art on loan from one of Taylor University's closest friends drew hundreds of visitors to campus.*

12

## CIVILITY-IN AN UNCIVIL CULTURE

*How should a Christ follower engage in civil discourse in an increasingly polarized culture? Dr. Tom Jones '71 provides insight.*

24

## MERCY FOR THE MERCIFUL

*The motivation that spurred Dr. Colleen (Kendrick '98) Kraft's care for Ebola-stricken aid workers went far beyond professional duty.*





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Founded in 1846, Taylor University is one of America's oldest Christian liberal arts colleges. Over 2,000 graduate and undergraduate students from 45 states and 27 foreign countries attend Taylor, where majors in 64 fields of study are available. For the eighth year in a row, Taylor University is the number one Midwest University in the category Best Regional Colleges in the 2015 *US News & World Report* survey, *America's Best Colleges*.

The mission of Taylor University is to develop servant leaders marked with a passion to minister Christ's redemptive love and truth to a world in need.



CHRISTIAN COLLEGE CONSORTIUM



*A higher standard.  
A higher purpose.*





## THE CONTEXT FOR SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE

*Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body ...*

How does one speak the truth in love? I once knew a person who said he could say just about anything to anyone as long as he smiled when he said it. Even if it was superficial, it sounded so right. Based on the letter of Paul to the Ephesian church, I have come to a different conclusion.

In reading Paul's Holy Spirit-inspired words to his beloved sisters and brothers in the faith, Paul established a context for this process of speaking the truth in love. He frames the command with calls to unity, maturity and living lives worthy of our calling from Christ. The Holy Spirit, through Paul, calls us to humility, gentleness and patience, adding that we are to make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Some are called to apostleship, the office of prophet, pastor, evangelist and teacher, with the goal of equipping our fellow pilgrims, "so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

**"Then** we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming," Paul continues. **"Instead,** speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

I don't like conflict and confrontation. I only know a few people who do. Yet, Christ gifts and calls us to build up, challenge, sometimes rebuke, and always love. This magazine has just a few stories of Christ followers who have done this, and done it well. I pray that we will all be challenged and encouraged to grow in the image of Christ in everything that we say and do.



James R. Garringer  
Editor



# MORE THAN NUMBER ONE

**TAYLOR UNIVERSITY RANKED NUMBER ONE IN U.S. NEWS SURVEY FOR THE EIGHTH STRAIGHT YEAR**

For the eighth straight year, Taylor University is the number one Midwest University in the category *Best Regional Colleges* in the newly-released 2015 U.S. News & World Report survey, *America's Best Colleges*.

The number one ranking also marks the 18th consecutive year Taylor University has been listed in the region's top three. Criteria employed by U.S. News includes graduation and retention rates, peer assessment of excellence, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance, and alumni giving.


Among the Midwest's Best Regional Colleges, Taylor ranked first in peer assessment score, freshman retention rate, and graduation rate. Additionally, Taylor received high rankings for its ability to attract freshmen from the top 25 percent of their high school class, alumni giving rate, and faculty-student ratio.

Taylor University was also recognized in a U.S. News companion survey titled *Great Schools, Great Prices*, which compares the net cost of attendance for students receiving the average level of need-based financial aid with the school's overall U.S. News ranking.

"The U.S. News rankings, as well as those from other publications - Forbes, Princeton Review, Washington Monthly, and Open Doors to name a few - reflect a comprehensive study of the educational work occurring at hundreds of colleges and universities nationwide," said Taylor President, Dr. Eugene B. Habecker '68. "In each case, Taylor University is recognized and highly ranked for the fine education provided to more than 20,000 alumni who embody our mission to minister Christ's redemptive love and truth throughout the world, no matter their vocational calling."

One of those additional surveys is the 2014-2015 Colleges of Distinction, an online collegiate survey that recognizes universities for teacher-centered education and preparation of students for success after graduation.

Taylor's Colleges of Distinction ranking was based on interviews with college admissions experts, administrators, faculty, students and alumni from each nominated college. Data that includes graduation rates and classroom sizes also figures prominently in a school's selection to the Colleges of Distinction list.

"The Colleges of Distinction ranking is especially exciting because their specific criteria - Engaged Students, Great Teaching, Vibrant Communities, and Successful Outcomes - are distinctives embodied in the Taylor University experience," said Steve Mortland '85, Taylor's Vice President for Enrollment Management and Marketing. "While a growing number of college surveys each attempt to gauge the academic experience utilizing their own distinct methodologies, it is especially gratifying that our university performs quite well regardless of the criteria." 



# Strategic Directions 2026 taking shape

IN THE YEAR 2026, TAYLOR UNIVERSITY WILL BE A THRIVING, DISTINCTIVELY CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY WHERE EVERY STUDENT IS CLOSELY MENTORED BY FACULTY, HAS DEVELOPED WITHIN THEM GLOBAL AND INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCIES, AND IS EMINENTLY PREPARED FOR THE MARKETPLACE AND WORKFORCE.

This would be the result of goals laid out within Taylor University's next strategic plan, Strategic Directions 2016. The process to create a new plan to build upon the successes of Vision 2016 began a year and a half ago when Taylor President Dr. Eugene B. Habecker '68 appointed a 15-member steering group with the charge to undertake a collaborative process resulting in strategic directions to advance the Taylor mission in the coming decade.


The process involved nearly 50 meetings on and off campus that gathered 600-plus recommendations from 950 members of the Taylor community. Additionally, more than 700 current Taylor students participated in an online survey.

Planners say the Strategic Directions 2026 affirms and builds upon Taylor being a residential, undergraduate, interdenominational, liberal arts university that offers rigorous academic and co-curricular programs for the whole person - these within a biblically-anchored, Christ-centered, and discipleship-oriented intentional community where faculty-student mentoring relationships are the most critical element.

The plan was the subject of a 33-page interim report that was released this fall. In it, six emerging strategic directions and goals were identified that include investment in students and faculty by building a significant endowment to more

effectively pursue students who demonstrate unique potential for Taylor's mission without being limited by his or her financial aid concerns. The committee members also say there will be investment in faculty to attract, develop, and retain committed Christian, mission-driven faculty who demonstrate unique potential and calling to contribute to the holistic discipleship of students through excellence in teaching, scholarship and mentoring.

When a Preliminary Final Report is released in January, it will be made electronically available to all alumni, parents, and friends for their thoughtful and constructive responses - observations, opinions, confirmations, and critiques - on every dimension, including substance, structure, and style. The responses will inform a Final Report to be given to the President and ultimately the Board of Trustees in May 2015.

"Since Taylor was founded, each generation has sought the Lord's guidance and worked diligently to preserve and strengthen that mission," said Dr. Matt DeLong, Professor of Mathematics and Co-Chair of the Strategic Directions 2026 steering group. In that spirit, we again endeavor to put forth our best efforts to plan wisely for the future." 

A MORE-DETAILED REPORT IS AVAILABLE AT [WWW.TAYLOR.EDU](http://WWW.TAYLOR.EDU).



Below: Dr. Phil Collins and student docent Vanessa Gramling discuss part of the Boren Western Art Collection during the show's run this fall.

# The Return of the Wild West

One painting depicted cowboys around a campfire. Another showed a herd of steers and yet another depicted a stately, proud Native American chief. Learners – some young, some old – paused to look and reflect before moving on. Such was the experience of hundreds of schoolchildren, friends and neighbors for nearly six weeks as the Metcalf Gallery was home to *The Spirit of the American West*, an exhibit featuring Western art from the private collection of Taylor University friends Leland and LaRita Boren.

Sixty pieces of the Boren collection that included paintings, wood and marble sculptures, and mixed media, comprised the exhibit that gave visitors a glimpse into the American West. Taylor officials credited not only the Boren family, but also the Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Founda-



tion, Inc., whose support made the exhibit possible.

Not limiting themselves to simply displaying the works of art, exhibit planners also conducted a series of accompanying lectures and special appearances with education being the objective. Those special guests included James Nottage, Vice President and Chief Curatorial Officer of Eiteljorg Museum of Native

Americans and Western Art (Indianapolis), and noted Native American artist Edgar Heap of Birds, Professor of Native American Studies at the University of Oklahoma.

“One of the goals that was identified at the outset of the planning for this exhibition was to create educational and cultural learning opportunities for school children, other universities and the general public,” said Kathy (Klosterman ’76) Herrmann, Assistant Professor of Art Education at Taylor. “With a total of seven receptions, four lectures, four different field trips, with over 100 children and teachers from elementary through high school participating, I believe we have successfully accomplished that goal.

“I was impressed that people from all walks of life – young and older, from Taylor and communities all around the state experienced a collection of artwork that has never before been accessible to our community,” Herrmann added.

“It was easy to engage the high school students about the artwork by asking open-ended questions about each piece we discussed,” said Elli Abrahamson ’15, an art education major from Muncie, Ind., who served as one of 10 docents who conducted tours of the display. In addition to conducting tours for high school and elementary school students, Abrahamson and other Taylor students also led their guests in craft creation and discussions about the display.


“Something I took away from this experience is a sense of leadership,” Abrahamson said. “It was such a neat thing to see all of the women in my class rally together in order to educate groups of students about such a wonderful collection. I felt a sense of peace amongst the chaos, because I knew this was what we were all meant to do – to teach and interact with students.” ■




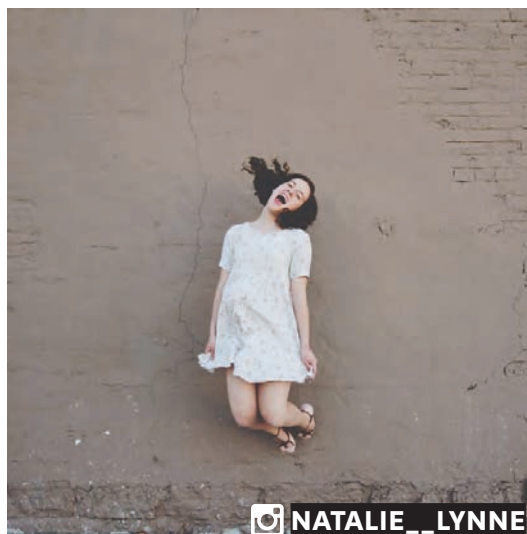
# #TAYLORU


ONE OF SOCIAL MEDIA'S BEST QUALITIES IS ITS ABILITY TO SHARE INSTANTANEOUS INFORMATION WITH FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND LOVED ONES VIA TWITTER, FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM OR VARIOUS OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA. HERE ARE A FEW TWEETS AND INSTAGRAM PHOTOS THAT WE HAVE ENJOYED DURING THE PAST MONTHS.

 [@HeatherJLarson](#) "God's at work in incredible students @tayloru! I loved being at Spiritual Renewal Week! The future's extremely bright!"

 [@lukehunter16](#) I love how professors at @tayloru will sit around and talk after class. We are lucky to have professors who genuinely care about our lives.

 [@worldofwill](#) You know you are back at @tayloru when someone loses \$21 and can be assured they will get it back.



 [@RaeganFlikkema](#) An amazing chapel at @tayloru – what a privilege to hear someone speak about individuals with #specialneeds and their VALUE to society. #amen



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# FACULTY CONTRIBUTIONS EXTEND BEYOND THE VILLAGE BORDER

**DR. ROBERT ARONSON** (Public Health) conducted two workshops at the pre-conference intensive institute of the Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity (Public Health Ethics; Public Health Research Ethics). He also coauthored several articles including *Preventing HIV Among Black men in a College Using a CBPR Approach*, which was published in *Innovations in HIV Prevention Research and Practice through Community Engagement*.

**DR. NICHOLAS BABIN** (Earth and Environmental Science) coauthored *State Service Foresters' Attitudes Toward Using Climate and Weather Information When Advising Forest Landowners*, an article published in the *Journal of Forestry*.

**DR. RON BENBOW** (Mathematics) was an invited participant in the Culture in the Mathematics Classroom Conference held at the University of Northern Colorado in June 2014.

**DR. BARBARA BIRD** (English) serves on the senior editorial board for the professional journal *College Composition and Communication*. She was also chosen for participation in NEH Summer Seminar, *Reconsidering Flannery O'Connor*, held in Milledgeville, Ga.

**DR. ABRAHAM CHANG** (Modern Languages) taught a day-long intensive course *Spanish Language Pedagogy* in June at the ARCO Language Institute in Ecuador to the faculty who teach Spanish at the Taylor Cuenca Program.

**DR. LEE ERICKSON** (Business) and his wife Patricia (Mathematics) published an article *Predicting Student Performance Using One-Minute Papers* in the *Journal for Economic Educators*.

**DR. AARON HOUSHOLDER** (English) presented *Holmes, Bond, and The Dark Knight: The Enduring Appeal of Those Who Patrol the Shadows* at the Sherlock Holmes: Past and Present conference, University College, London (UK). He has also had a number of works published in online and printed venues.

**DR. DALE KELLER** (Communications) presented *A Rhetorician Ponders Technology: Burke and Contemporary Selections, Reflections, and Deflections* at the Ninth Triennial Conference of the Kenneth Burke Society, St. Louis University, July 2014.

**PROFESSOR GREG KLOTZ** (Modern Languages) taught a four-day intensive course in August on the First Epistle of John to pastors in and around Puerto Barrios, Izabal, Guatemala, for the Lutheran Church of Guatemala.

**DR. GREG MAGEE** (Biblical Studies Christian Education Philosophy) had a peer-reviewed article published titled *Paul's Gospel, the Law, and God's Universal Reign in Romans 3:31* in *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 57.

**DR. TAMMY MAHON** (Education) presented at a pair of two-day seminars for teacher training in La Romana and Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic in July.

**DR. LINDA (DENEAU '99) MANGANELLO** (Communications) wrote 3 *Ways to Love Others with Our Language* as a guest post on Ed Stetzer's blog on Christianity Today's website.

**DR. ED MEADORS** (Biblical Studies Christian Education Philosophy) taught a course on the book of Revelation this summer at the Africa Theological Seminary.

**DR. SCOTT MOESCHBERGER '97** (Psychology) co-edited the book: *Symbols that Bind, Symbols that Divide: The Semiotics of Peace and Conflict*.

**DR. MATT RENFROW** (Kinesiology) presented *Integrating Undergraduate Research Into Christian Liberal Arts Higher Education* at the Midwest Regional Meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine.

**DR. RACHEL SMITH** (Art) was co-editor of a special issue of *SEEN Journal* titled *Unsettled Ground on African Interactions*, published in June 2014, arising from the June 2013 seminar sponsored by the Nagel Institute for the Study of World Christianity. Smith was co-leader of the seminar.



**PROFESSOR JONATHAN BOUW** (Art) traveled to the University of Mindanao in the Philippines on a Fulbright Scholarship where he conducted research for a children's book celebrating Philippine culture.



# FACULTY-MENTORED SCHOLARSHIP JUMPSTARTS STUDENTS' PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BY ANGELINA BURKHOLDER '15

Through funding from the Randall Endowed Research Fund, the Lilly Endowment, Inc., and various external sources, 32 students participated in faculty-mentored scholarship this past summer, a research experience that allows students to exercise classroom-taught skills in their respective studies. Sue Gavin, Director of Sponsored Programs, organizes the program and its funding every summer and believes strongly in its ability to prepare students for graduate school and careers.

"Faculty-mentored scholarship is a high impact practice," Gavin said. "Faculty are able to come alongside students and truly mentor them. It allows students to develop a spirit of inquiry."

Under the direction of biology professor Dr. Brian Dewar, Matt Luckman, a senior biology/pre-med student, studied the umami taste receptor (dimerized T1R1 and T1R3 g-coupled protein receptors) and the effects of its presence in other cells of the body.

"It's beneficial for me to get experience going into medical school," Luckman said. "Medical schools want to know what work you've done in preparing yourself for the really important stuff. Doing research before ever getting to medical school is definitely a plus for me."

Luckman is continuing the research throughout his senior year, while training junior Parker Rea to take over the work beginning next summer. Luckman will also present his research at several conferences throughout the year while exploring options for publication.

"I have learned more through this program than I would from reading a textbook about what I'm doing," Luckman said. "The educational part of it is huge."

Junior exercise science student, Taylor Degenkolb, aided research in her department to prove the reliability of Taylor's ultrasound device as equal to the reliability of a standard

MRI. Due to high clinical demand, MRIs are expensive and largely unavailable for research. With proof of Taylor's ultrasound reliability, more students will be able to use the device in other research and academic projects.

"The summer was very challenging and it made me have to ask a lot of questions," Degenkolb said. "Once I worked through that and embraced the challenge, it was definitely worth it. Understanding the research process will be really beneficial down the road."

All students who participated in the program were required to plan a professional presentation highlighting their process and findings to colleagues and peers during a luncheon. They are also expected to present at additional conferences beyond Taylor and seek publication to document their experience. **T**



Senior wide receiver Griffin Lowe tries to catch Jonathan Keith's pass during Taylor's 56-10 win over Anderson University.





From left, Tim Burkholder, Liz (Plass) Martin, Jeff Meyer and Bob Blume

# FOUR INDUCTED INTO ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

The Taylor University Athletic Department inducted four new members into its Athletic Hall of Fame during Taylor's 2014 Homecoming celebration. **The 2014 Hall of Fame class includes: Tim Burkholder '63, Bob Blume '62, Jeff Meyer '76, and Liz Plass '05 Martin.**

Burkholder was selected for Meritorious Service. A longtime biology professor, Burkholder served as Taylor's Faculty Athletic Representative for 27 years and volunteered as the game clock operator at all home men's basketball games since 1970. Burkholder also represented Taylor on the NAIA National Awards and Hall of Fame Committee for 17 years and was the Chairperson of the Taylor Athletic Committee for 13 years.

Blume was also recognized for Meritorious Service. As a coach, he led the Taylor men's tennis team to its first-ever NAIA National Tournament. Blume was later elected to the NAIA National Tennis Tournament Committee and named National Tournament Director and President of the NAIA Tennis Coaches Association, before being inducted into the NAIA Tennis Hall of Fame. Blume has remained involved with Taylor and served extensively with Promise Keepers and Man4Man Ministries.

Meyer is a veteran basketball coach with a career that spans 36 years. Teams he served as head or assistant coach have recorded a 679-415 record at the NAIA and NCAA Division I levels. Meyer's teams have advanced to 13 NCAA Tournaments, three Elite Eights, two Final Fours and one National Championship game. In 16 seasons as Liberty University's head basketball coach, Meyer's 259 victories stand as the most wins in program history.

Plass Martin scored 2,183 points during a stellar four-year career on the women's basketball team. In addition to being named the Lady Trojan Award winner, Plass Martin was also honored as a First-Team NAIA All-American, two-time Kodak All-American, and two-time First-Team All-MCC player during her career. **T**



# CIVILITY – IN AN UNCIVIL CULTURE

BY DR. TOM JONES '71

Civil discourse in the U.S. has never been for the faint of heart. George Washington grew weary of the unending charges and counter charges leveled by the emerging Federalists and the Democratic Republican factions against each other. His distaste for the nastiness of partisan politics led him to include a stern warning against the establishment of political parties in his Farewell Address.

But, like it or not, our Constitution was written with the intent of forcing hard conversations about difficult subjects as part of the process in which compromise can occur. The Constitution's system of checks and balances pits groups with

varying objectives and principles against one another, requiring them to reach beyond their own base of support to form broad coalitions.

The system was created to ensure that no single person or group could ever amass dictatorial powers that lead to a tyranny either of a majority or a minority. It is, however, a system that breaks down when ideology trumps the spirit of compromise and when there is no agreement on what constitutes the common good.

The 1850s was such a period. It can be argued that the Civil War was inevitable after the Supreme Court announced the Dred Scott decision in



1857 and John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry in 1859. Both hard core abolitionists and states' rights advocates reached the conclusion that our constitutional system of government was irreparably damaged. With no sense of a common good embraced by a majority, the political system crumbled as Abraham Lincoln took the oath of office, knowing that approximately 60% of those who voted in the 1860 presidential election had cast their ballot for someone else.

It sometimes feels as though the ghosts of the 1850s have reappeared. We engage in noisy debates but seem increasingly less interested in knowing or understanding the positions of those with whom we disagree. We do not spend much time listening, reading, reflecting, or engaging in honest two-way conversations that seek the common good. Sadly, we devote even less time to thinking. These bad habits have made it more difficult to share the Lord's truth and love in our communities, and they are stifling the robust discussions that are essential to maintain a healthy, free society.

A major moral issue was at the center of the political storm during the 1850s: slavery. It was morally indefensible and should have been condemned by Christians on both sides of the Mason-Dixon Line. In fact, many Southerners were uncomfortable with the "peculiar institution" as it was called at the time and wanted to find a way out of their economic reliance on slavery.

Northern abolitionists compounded the problem by engaging in self-righteous rhetoric and finger-pointing against Southerners in general and slave owners in particular. They did so while ignoring their own treatment of Native cultures who were removed from their tribal lands and the Irish, Chinese, and free blacks who lived and worked in their burgeoning cities, helping to generate the wealth that created the Gilded Age.

U.S. political leaders during the 1850s could have learned much from William Wilberforce and his friends, who worked tirelessly to end England's ties to slavery and to eliminate child labor. He refused to compromise on the point that slavery was immoral and in direct contradiction to biblical principles. But he chose to work within Britain's constitutional and legal systems and to do so with civility, extending love and grace to those who were his most severe critics.

Wilberforce recognized that we are all mortal and, as such, are flawed. He also recognized that the best strategy to achieve legislative success for the changes that he considered most important was to build coalitions based on common interests.

Finding the common good or the common interest requires "truth and tough-minded debates," which author and commentator Os Guinness calls "the oxygen of a free society." It is not easy to engage in courageous conversations when the topics are controversial and emotions run high. Guinness writes:

"Too often, for example, religious believers have been uncharitable, liberals have been illiberal, conservatives have been insensitive to tradition, champions of tolerance have been intolerant, defenders of free speech have been censorious,

Elton Trueblood, writing about the early Christians in *The Incendiary Fellowship*, comments on their patient optimism in spite of the opposition they faced. He notes that, "whatever their mistakes, they were at least not guilty of a weakening optimism, because they understood perfectly that the only reasonable way to face a minority status is the way of inner toughness."


As Christians, we should have an advantage when it comes to developing a convicted civility. Consider the spirit of the first century Church, for example. Peter, James, John, and Paul presented the truth clearly and compellingly to anyone who would listen. They were in the synagogues, along the rivers, in the courtyards, and in the public squares. They were prepared to give a reason for their hope and to do so with a spirit of compassion and love for those who were listening.

**CONVICTED CIVILITY IS SOMETHING WE HAVE TO WORK AT. WE HAVE TO WORK AT IT BECAUSE BOTH SIDES OF THE EQUATION ARE VERY IMPORTANT. CIVILITY IS IMPORTANT. AND SO IS CONVICTION.**

and citizens of a republic based on democratic accommodations have succumbed to a habit of relentless confrontation."

So, how do we move from being a nation in which civil discourse is anything but civil to one in which the most important issues can be addressed in ways that lead to broad-based coalitions built on recognition of a common good?

Pursuit of the common good requires civility. Richard Mouw raises an important question about civility in his book, *Uncommon Decency: Christian Civility in an Uncivil World*: "How can we hold onto strongly felt convictions while still nurturing a spirit that is authentically kind and gentle?" He answers his question this way: "Convicted civility is something we have to work at. We have to work at it because both sides of the equation are very important. Civility is important. And so is conviction."

May we learn from their example along with that of Wilberforce. As President John F. Kennedy once said, "So, let us not be blind to our differences - but let us also direct our attention to common interests and to means by which those differences can be resolved ... In the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we are all mortal." 



**DR. TOM JONES** '71 serves as Chair of the History Department and Associate Dean of the Foundational Core Curriculum.

town



# EPHESIANS 4:15-16

SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE, WE ARE TO GROW UP IN EVERY WAY INTO HIM WHO IS THE HEAD, INTO CHRIST, 16 FROM WHOM THE WHOLE BODY, JOINED AND HELD TOGETHER BY EVERY JOINT WITH WHICH IT IS EQUIPPED, WHEN EACH PART IS WORKING PROPERLY, MAKES THE BODY GROW SO THAT IT BUILDS ITSELF UP IN LOVE.







A  
WONDERFUL  
LIFE  
INDEED

IT IS A CLASSIC SCENE FROM THE ICONIC MOTION PICTURE *IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE*, WHEN GEORGE BAILEY GETS TO SEE THE IMPACT HIS LIFE HAS MADE UPON SO MANY.

Amidst the strains of *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*, one grateful resident of Bedford Falls after another eagerly steps forward to help the man whose simple, good life had changed theirs in such a profound way.

His full name was Robert V. Gortner, but to everyone who knew and loved him, he was “Bob.” Bob Gortner, Professor Emeritus and former Business Division/Department Chair, was the man who coined the term “Christian Tiger” to describe businesspeople who did their work with excellence, integrity and faith. For nearly 20 years, this remarkable, humble, approachable man mentored hundreds of Taylor students, shaping and honing their acumen for accounting, finance, management, and other facets of business, and imbuing them with a passion for the world in which they were called to live.

In early fall, Gortner learned he had only a few weeks to live as he battled cancer. And in that moment, he wondered aloud what impact, if any, he'd had upon these generations of Taylor students. Based upon their response, dozens upon dozens of emails and cards, the impact was immeasurable.

“He loved Taylor, and he always wondered if he had made enough of a difference,” says Beth (Gortner '96) Adkison, who enjoyed the unique perspective of knowing and loving him as both her father and a professor. “The outpouring of love and stories of how he had impacted students with his Christian Tiger charge really came back to him through all of these emails.”

“Each one was so special to him,” Adkison remembers. “Most of us feel called to do God's

work but it doesn't seem to have the same level of greatness. He really felt called to make a mark. He set his bar higher, and it led him to sometimes wonder if he was doing enough.”

It was more than enough, according to Doug Miller '88, Regional Distribution Development Manager for Trane Heating and Cooling, a division of Ingersoll Rand. “I can't think about my college years and your impact on my life without getting emotional,” he wrote to his professor. “You showed interest in me, and you showed caring toward me that I will never be able to repay ... I credit you with showing and sharing God's love toward me, and it helped to change my life.”

During Miller's years at Taylor, he and Gortner met regularly to pray and talk. The conversations ranged from substantive to light, but what meant the most to Miller was that he felt valued by his professor.

“There is not a day or time that I think back on Taylor University that you aren't the central figure of those thoughts,” Miller said in his email to Gortner. “I know I was just one of thousands of kids that you would have seen go through the doors at Taylor, but you made an indelible mark on my life. Thank you.”

Mike Falder '94, Executive Director of Development at Taylor and a former student of Gortner's, sent the first email, but it was not to Gortner. It was to his fellow business graduates, encouraging them to speak back into their professor what he had spoken into them - life, value and hope. He remembered his late professor with deep gratitude.

“I was encouraged as a student to go about my work with excellence,” Falder reflects. “I knew Bob believed in me. He believed that I would be significant in the marketplace, and that I would

live a life of significance for the Kingdom. There is nothing special about me. He believed that about all of his students and you could see it in the twinkle in his eye; you could hear it in his words and the tone of his voice. You just knew it.

“I think we all felt like we had been set apart because we had that kind of education and because we had been invested in by Bob Gortner,” Falder says. “There was something we were called to do in the kingdom of God and in the marketplace, and that we had a responsibility to live as Christian Tigers. Because he believed in me, I believed in myself.”

“You are one of those people who has had a lasting impact on me,” wrote Jody Fausnight '91 to his dying professor. Fausnight is Director of Development at Servants, Inc., an international outreach ministry based in York, Pa. “Beyond me you have touched so many thousands more. Even now, you are touching lives beyond what I can see or imagine because God has a way of touching us all through those who touch us, touch others, and many iterations beyond that. Thank you for investing in me personally and for investing in so many others throughout your life at Taylor.”

“The stories were so, so touching. It was amazing how many students said he was their favorite professor, or, ‘I was at a turning point,’ or, ‘You were the reason I came to Taylor,’ ‘You were the reason I got my job,’” Adkison says. “It was such an amazing outpouring of love. It gave him a peace beyond comprehension.

“I loved my father. I loved him as a dad. I loved him as a professor,” she adds. “I was so grateful that so many students were able to experience a part of him and see the beauty of who he really was.” ■



I know I was just  
one of thousands  
of kids that you  
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Thank you.

# SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH AND SIXTH CHANCES

**“James” never knew his father.** He barely knew his mother – she seemed to flit in and out of his life with the seasons. Raised by his extended family, he searched for a sense of belonging in people who understood his story – people like him. That was how he got involved in the gang. By age 13, he had committed his first crime. At 15 years old, he was locked up for a role he played in a robbery.









The Crossing's mission statement: Empowering struggling students to become contributing members of their communities through academics, job training and faith-based mentoring.

"Heather" started using heroin as a young teen. At first, it gave her the greatest highs - it made her feel like she had never felt before. It was new, exciting and a little dangerous. But the drug transformed her from its user into its slave, forcing her to do things - awful things that she never would have imagined. And it was all to get the money for her next fix.

Their addictions and brokenness spilled out, impacting and ultimately alienating everyone who knew them and cared about them. As the cycle of criminal behavior, drug use, and violence began to swirl faster, they bounced from social outreaches and the criminal justice system to homelessness and despair. And the darkest part of all of it was that the prospect of things ever

getting better had either disappeared or was so diminished the only thing they dared hope for was a miracle.

Rob Staley '79 may not be a miracle worker, but he has been involved in more than his fair share of them. Staley, a former public school teacher and administrator, had a conviction that more could be done for at-risk students - students whose stories were like those of "Heather" and "James." So he launched an educational venture, The Crossing. It is a place where at-risk students can receive an education, vocational training, and discipline, along with the added spiritual component that points to a second chance for humankind. Or in the cases of these students, those second chances become third, fourth, fifth,

or even sixth chances. And there are dozens of success stories.

"We take dropouts, thugs and gang members. [The success they experience at The Crossing] is a God miracle," says Staley. "It's all done through relationships. It's not about strategy - it's loving them unconditionally all year round. Our philosophy is, 'We are here to serve and help you, but you have got to want to be helped.'"

Staley freely admits he could have been in their place. He was only nine years old when his father tragically died, leading to aimlessness, acting out, and an uncertain future until he finally found a haven in athletics. Staley first learned of Taylor University when Coach Don Odle '42 recruited



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**“WE TAKE DROPOUTS, THUGS AND GANG MEMBERS. [THE SUCCESS THEY EXPERIENCE AT THE CROSSING] IS A GOD MIRACLE,” SAYS STALEY. “IT’S ALL DONE THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS. IT’S NOT ABOUT STRATEGY – IT’S LOVING THEM UNCONDITIONALLY ALL YEAR ROUND.”**

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him to come and play basketball. Originally, Staley did not have the grades to get into Taylor so he attended a junior college where he got his academic situation in order. Once he arrived at Taylor, he met his wife Gayle (Cook '80) and found his life's calling in education.

But in the public school system he felt the most important component of a life's education was missing. “I dealt with kids for 22 years as administrator and it became apparent to me I couldn't share the whole truth because you have the separation of church and state,” Staley remembers. “But I had experienced redemption. I was frustrated with the educational system and I had a burden in my heart that we could do better than what we do, so we broke away from the public school system. I rented a warehouse and opened a coffee shop and school in Elkhart County (Ind.). I had spent time as an assistant chaplain in the county jail, visiting some of my former students. I prayed about it and began writing a vision statement.”

That vision, “to transform lives through education by focusing on the heart and mind,” provides the framework upon which The Crossing's 18 campuses that are scattered around the State of Indiana operate. While students proceed at various paces as they sort out their lives, one constant is what Staley calls “Family Time,” when the students huddle up to learn more about the God who created them and loves them.


“They are so intrigued with the ‘God concept’ and will ask, ‘Can we talk about God during school?’ So during the day we will stop and sit on couches



for a while to talk about God,” Staley explains, adding that some school systems would be more eager to work with The Crossing if the Christian overtones were diminished or removed outright. “I tell them, ‘I’m sorry, we cannot do that. It is not an option with us; it is our mission.’”

Sometimes the second chances are derailed or at least defrayed if Staley sees a student's destructive behavioral patterns spilling into the lives of other students. “I will tell a student, ‘You’re being disruptive. You’re blocking us. We think this is not a good fit at this time, but you are always welcome back,’” he says. “We can have hard dis-

cussions in love but always go for a second try or a third try. We had a girl who came back six times and finally graduated. We don't allow a person to come back and cover up and not make changes.

“The great thing about God is he always loves us. But he does slap us upside the head and then give us another chance,” Staley adds. “I tell our students, ‘God didn't quit on me and we won't quit on you.’” 



MERCY for the MERCIFUL



**E**BOLA. IN RECENT MONTHS THE NAME OF THIS DEADLY DISEASE HAS ADVANCED FROM OBSCURITY TO TAKE ITS PLACE AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST FEARED ILLNESSES. FOR YEARS IMAGES OF SICK AND DYING AFRICANS HAVE SPILLED INTO AMERICA'S LIVING ROOMS, BUT EBOLA IS DIFFERENT. FOR SOME, THE WARS THAT HAVE RAGED IN AFRICA, THE FAMINES THAT HAVE RAVISHED ITS PEOPLE, AND THE RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION THAT ENSLAVED SO MANY OF ITS AFRICAN ADHERENTS WERE ISSUES THAT, WHILE TRAGIC, HAD NO IMMEDIATE IMPACT ON US. THAT CHANGED WHEN TWO AMERICAN MERCY WORKERS WHO WERE INFECTED WITH THE DISEASE WERE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES FOR LIFE-SAVING TREATMENT.

# IN MAKING A CONNECTION WITH THE PATIENTS, I FELT MORE MINISTERED TO BY THEM. I THINK THEY FELT COMFORTED BY HAVING A COMMITTED CHRISTIAN CARING FOR THEM.

In the days since Samaritan's Purse doctor Kent Brantly and Serving In Mission nurse Nancy Writebol returned to America, a debate has raged over whether or not Americans infected with the deadly illness should be allowed back into the States for treatment. Fueling that debate are fears of an Ebola epidemic that would sweep throughout this country.

For Dr. Colleen (Kendrick '98) Kraft, there was and is no controversy. Kraft is a doctor at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia, where the illness made its American land-fall. She was a member of the medical team that nursed Brantly and Writebol back to health. And she did not see a threat - only a brother and sister in the Lord who desperately needed her help.

"They were pretty sick when they got here," Kraft remembers. "They were both weak and had abnormal heart rhythms. They were not the

sickest we have ever cared for, but it was not guaranteed they were going to survive."

According to the World Health Organization, Ebola virus disease (EVD), formerly known as Ebola hemorrhagic fever, is a severe, often fatal illness. The virus began in animals and was transmitted, it is believed, to humans when those infected animals were eaten. From its human hosts, the Ebola virus spreads in the larger population through human-to-human contact. Roughly 50 percent of Ebola sufferers die from the disease. At this time there is no vaccine.

Kraft's specialty is microbiology and infectious diseases and she has performed research in areas that include the human rhinovirus and HIV/AIDS superinfection. She said Ebola's transmission between humans happens when a human comes into contact with body fluids from an infected person, making Ebola infectious rather than contagious - but still deadly. Ebola is an RNA virus - other RNA viruses include influenza, hepatitis C, the common cold, measles and polio.

"Ebola begins with fever and weakness, like influenza. There is a malaise, and one gets achy, lethargic, really tired, and really weak," Kraft says.



“There is nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. We don’t entirely know when it turns hemorrhagic and causes you to bleed out. The other thing we think people are dying from is heart arrhythmia from not enough potassium because of so much diarrhea and vomiting.”

While Kraft expressed confidence that an Ebola epidemic in the United States is unlikely, she said there are still questions about how Brantly and Writebol, both of whom wore protective suits when treating Ebola sufferers, were infected.

“As far as he knows, he did not have a break in his suit. He may have cleaned a bathroom not wearing the right outfit. It is a little confusing, and that is what makes it scary. We did not have a sense of how either

Nancy or Kent got it,” Kraft says. “In the United States, we have complete disposal of everything and they do not [in West Africa]. They have to reuse things. Also, the conditions in which you are working could be part of it. In the United States, you have four nurses for two patients. In West Africa, it is one [medical professional] for twenty [patients]. You can have patients vomiting, and there are infected body fluids that cannot be cleaned up.”

The care for Brantly and Writebol included rehydration and a blood transfusion from a child who had contracted Ebola and survived. Kraft says some of her colleagues’ family members were concerned about the level of danger in being in close contact with Brantly and Writebol, but she, along with her husband

Andy ’96 and their children were never concerned.

“In making a connection with the patients, I felt more ministered to by them,” says Kraft. “I think they felt comforted by having a committed Christian caring for them. One of the things Kent said was, he was concerned that there would be a lot of physical care but not spiritual care. Several of us were committed Christians and ministered to them in that way.”

To those who question why Brantly and Writebol, or any other Ebola sufferer, should be returned to the United States for treatment, Kraft has a loving but straightforward response. “It is very clear that by bringing them back we raised awareness,” Kraft says. “Our understanding of this disease went from a rudimentary knowledge to being able to actually give input as to how to care for people and what incurs the greatest risk of transmission of this disease. We may be able to prevent further outbreaks and deaths with the knowledge we have gained in a short period of time.”

“The world would not be as focused on the events in West Africa, if not for that,” she adds. “If you spent an hour looking into the need in Liberia, you would understand that the need there is a one-million-fold greater there than here. God laid it on their hearts to minister in a very dark, depraved, desperate place ... Kent Brantly was going to the suffering - by doing that he was suffering with them. He was leaving the comforts of the developed world go to help the population in the developing world.” [T](#)

Kraft and members of the medical team poses with Dr. Kent Brantly after his release from Emory University Hospital.



Kraft and the medical team answer questions at the press conference upon Brantly’s release.





» **MELON AND GOURD** – Of all the Taylor fall traditions, perhaps none is as widely loved and enjoyed by the entire student body as this classic Third West Wengatz (affectionately known as WWIII) event. Hundreds of Taylor students, faculty and staff line the Rediger Chapel/Auditorium entrance on the last day of competition as WWIII members try to elude being tagged by the holder of the melon or gourd. Whomever is “It” at the start of Chapel is required to take what is referred to as, “a healthy bite” of their respective fruit.







# AlumniNotes

**1941**

**Rev. Ross McClennan** died May 5, 2013, at the age of 97. He is survived by his beloved wife of 70 years, **Mary (Havens '43)**, two sons, James Paul and Robert Donald, five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, three step-grandchildren and four step-great-grandchildren, as well as his sister-in-law and niece.

**1945**

**01 Dr. Robert Bontrager** died Thursday, July 31, 2014. During his life he served as a missionary to Congo and was also a professor of journalism. He lived for many years in Lewisburg, Pa., and Manhattan, Kansas, with his late wife **Mable (Busch)**. Learn more about Robert's life and legacy and sign the family's guest book at [bob.sharedthinking.com](http://bob.sharedthinking.com).

**1948**

**∞ Donna (Mougin) Kachuk** died Friday, June 20, 2014, in Orlando, Fla., surrounded by her family. Donna was an example to everyone, showing loyalty and support to her family, friends and work, and living a rich, fulfilling life of dedication to the Lord.

**1951**

**02 Dick Norris, Jr.** passed away at his home in Winchester Bay, Ore., June 9, 2013, at the age of 87. He was a WWII U.S. Army Air Corp veteran. He is survived by his wife, **Mary (Winters) Norris**, daughter, **Vicki (Norris) Young '77**, and sons; **Richard Norris III '71**, **John Norris '74**, **Dan Norris '82**, Tim Norris, and **Stephen Norris '96**, 16 grandchildren and 25 great grandchildren. Dick filled the roles of pastor, businessman, Bible scholar, teacher and was co-founder of Maranatha Christian High School in Calif., and two other Christian high schools in Oregon.

**03 Elma Lena Roget** died Saturday, May 17, 2014. She will be fondly remembered for her love of the outdoors and is survived by many beloved children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

**1953**

**Dorothy (Burgess) Greimann** passed away February 28, 2014, in Port Richey, Fla. Dorothy taught many years in Indiana, Illinois and Florida (where she resided in recent years). She is survived by her husband Tom, two sons, and her cousin **Joy (Jessup '50) Jones**.

**Don McFarland** died April 5, 2014, in Folsom, Calif. Don and his wife Faye served the Lord as missionaries on three continents, spending 10 years in Sweden. In the U.S., Don later served in church and camp ministries in four different states. He is survived by his wife and three generation of nieces and nephews, including **Cynthia (Peterson '74) Hillier**, **Jason Hillier '01** and **Jennifer Hillier '05**.

**1957**

**Rev. William L. Chapman** died May 5, 2014, at the VNA Hospice in Evansville, Ind. He is survived by his wife Evelyn and other loved ones.

**1956**

**04 Dr. George E. Somers**, 83, of Adrian, Mich., passed away Friday, July 4, 2014, surrounded by his family at home. George was ordained as a Methodist minister while serving with his family in India. He retired from Adrian College, where he was Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and Sociology. George is survived by his wife Joyce, four

sons, 10 grandchildren, nine-great grandchildren, and several sisters and cousins.

**1960**

**George and Jan (Huffman '58) Glass** have moved from their Rolling Pine Run home of 20 years to their "Granny Flat" in the home of their daughter and son-in-law **Debra (Glass) Gogelein '84** and **Chris Geoglein '84**, in Fort Wayne, Ind. They are very excited about sharing this newest phase of life with their family!

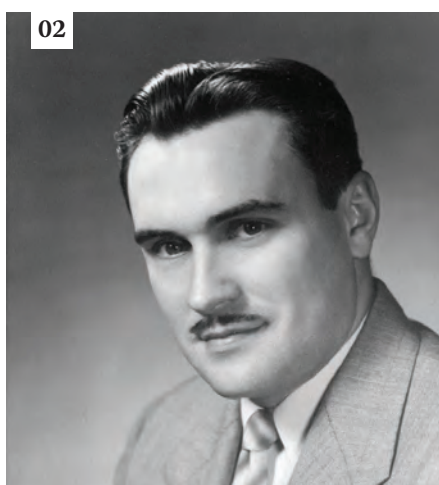
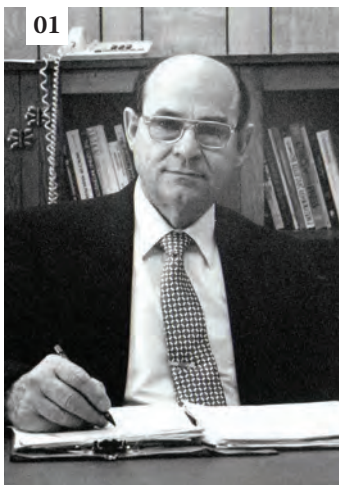
**1961**

**Carolyn (Sandstrom) Bardwell** died March 8, 2014. She is survived by her husband Frank and sons Rich and Don.

**1963**

**05 Ronald L. VanDam** passed away at home in Rocheport, Mo., July 26, 2014, at the age of 77 after a long illness. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, **Jonell (Willis '62)**, two daughters, and five grandchildren. Dr. VanDam had a distinguished career as Head Athletic Trainer and Professor at the University of Central Missouri for 31 years. In his spare time he enjoyed handball, racquetball, reading, fishing and carving. His first love was his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, followed by his family, his athletic training family and his many friends.

**06 Sandra (Gage) Peterson**, Jim Peterson, **Bill**



## SUBMITTING ALUMNI NOTES IS SIMPLE...

Visit [taylor.edu/alumninotes](http://taylor.edu/alumninotes) to submit your alumni notes update and photos. Please remember to upload only photos including alumni and of at least a minimum resolution of 150 dpi or 4" x 6" dimension. Notes can also be submitted by email at [magazine@taylor.edu](mailto:magazine@taylor.edu), by phone at (800) 882-3456 or by mail.

**Hubbard '64, Sherry (Murphy) Hubbard, Verlis Slusher, Lois (McBride) Slusher, Dennis Austin '65, Lois (Jackson) Austin, Deverl Whitehead and Mary (Baker) Whitehead** enjoyed fellowship and lunch at Cammack Station in Muncie, Ind. Many of the group studied elementary education while at Taylor.

**07 Sharma (Penhorwood) Goodwin** went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, June 11, 2014. She was a teacher, a real estate agent, and an Avon representative. Sharma is survived by her husband Floyd, five children, ten grandchildren, and three sisters.

**1967**

**08 Nelson Rediger** received a wonderful birthday present from his daughters **Erin (Rediger '99) Magnuson** and **April (Rediger '01) Kelly** as they enjoyed a trip to Antelope Slot Canyon in Page, Ariz., this summer. Not only was it a birthday present, the trip fulfilled Nelson's bucket list wish to see the canyon with his daughters.

**1971**

**09 Gary Sinclair** recently became the Family Pastor at Christ Community Church in Princeton, Ill. He leaves his role as Cares

and Teaching Pastor at Austin Christian Fellowship in Austin, Texas, after eight years. He also recently published an eBook at Amazon.com titled *Turn Up or Turn Around Your Parenting*, filled with practical ideas that parents of kids of any age can use to be more effective parents. He also continues his blogs *Safe At Home* and *Never Quit Climbing*, read each week by hundreds of people on Facebook and Twitter.

**10 Nanci (Henning) Pyle, Cindy (Haynes) Scherf, and Karen (Hall) Lemke** met in Colorado for a "roommate" reunion. They lived in McGee-Campbell-Wisconsin hall their junior year and East Hall their senior year.

**1974**

**11 Eric Jarboe** retired in May 2014 from a 40-year teaching career in the Jennings County (Ind.) school system. Eric established an orchestra program in 1979, changing the culture of the rural community to include performance on string instruments. Eric's wife, **Susan**





**(Van Poucker) Jarboe** retired in May 2013, after teaching drama and English for 27 years in Jennings and Bartholomew Counties. She took time off to be a stay-at-home mom to daughters Kelsy and Brittany.

**Madonna (Jervis) Wise** recently participated in a book-signing at Barnes & Noble at Wiregrass Shops in Wesley Chapel, Fla. Madonna, who is a retired school principal/administrator from three Fla. School districts and a licensed mental health counselor, has authored seven books. She writes many local histories for Arcadia publishing; her latest release in September 2014 was *Images of America: Dade City*. Madonna lives in Zephyrhills, Fla. with her husband of 40 years, Ernest. She is the mother of three children: Jervis, Mamie and Rachel.

#### 1977

**12 Douglas and Joyce (Vastbinder) Wanty** recently celebrated 38 years of marriage. Doug retired last year after 36 years of teaching language arts and physical education in Fairborn City Schools. Joyce retired from the Fairborn City Schools two years ago after 30 years of teaching kindergarten and second grade. They enjoy spending time with their six grandchildren, traveling, and being active in their church.

#### 1979

**13 Brian Jones** retired from teaching elementary school in the Decatur County Community School system after the 2013-2014 school year. At the time of his retirement, he was teaching third grade at South Decatur Elementary near his home in Westport, Ind. He plans to continue traveling as well as volunteering at his school, church, and community. He also cares for his mother, **Joy (Jessup '50) Jones** and brother Trent, both of whom live nearby.

#### 1981

**Ray Pfahler** serves as Hospital Chaplain for the Aultman Health Foundation at their Canton and Orrville, Ohio, locations. He has been blessed with 27 years of serving the Lord in ministry and his first chaplain assignment was in Wengatz Hall. Ray's wife, Wanda, is a nurse at Affinity Medical Center in Massillon.

**Daniel Sheard** now manages the Global Studies faculty for Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary's online program.

#### 1984

In May 2014, **James Campbell** was awarded a Doctor of Ministry degree from Drew University in Madison, N.J., with a topic in Marian theology and devotion in a liberal Protestant context. He serves as the Senior Minister of Broadway United Church of Christ, New York, N.Y. ([www.broadwayucc.org](http://www.broadwayucc.org)).

#### 1986

**Elisabeth (Terhune) Kelberlau** was named Teacher of the Year at Cotee River Elementary School in New Port Richey, Fla. for the 2014-2015 school year. Betsy teaches music and has been at Cotee River since 1998.

**14** Four Taylor graduates serve Gospel for Asia, a mission organization in the Dallas, Texas, area. **Heidi (Halterman) Chupp, Dave Chupp '85, Jonathan Chacko '07, and Bethany DuVal '10** say GFA is a great place to serve the Lord and make an eternal difference in bringing God's love to the unreached of Asia. They invite any Taylor grads whom God is directing to missions to prayerfully consider joining them.

#### 1987

**Paul Watson** died at home on June 22, 2014, after a short but valiant battle with colon

cancer. He is survived by his wife, **Cully (Powell) Watson**, and their two children, Abby (20) and Matthew (17).

#### 1988

After putting 100 miles a day in travel time for the past 15 years, **Kirby Tipple** has begun his role as Assistant Principal at Monroe Central Jr./Sr. High School in Parker City, Ind. - only seven miles from home.

#### 1996

**Dave Kline** recently changed roles in education from teaching to administration as the Assistant Principal at Newport High School and Newport Prep Academy in Newport, Ore. He lives in Willamette Valley with his wife Heidi and children Haley (9), Landon (7) and Caleb (5).

#### 1997

**Heather (Yoder)** and Shannon Weaver have finalized the adoption of their son, Jeremy. Jeremy was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1999, and welcomed home to his forever family on September 30, 2012. He joins sisters Anya (3) and Audry (12).

#### 1998

**15 Colleen Kraft** and **Joseph Brain '61** reunited in May 2014 in Boston, Mass., 17 years after Colleen worked as a research student in his laboratory. Dr. Brain is faculty in Environmental Health at the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston, Mass., and Dr. Kraft is a physician researcher at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga.

#### 2000

**16** Friends **Chris Mitchell**, Hashini Mitchell, **David Kauffman**, Kara Kauffman, **Wes Covert**, **Marissa (Kostelny) Covert**, **Phil Johnson**, and Kara Johnson gathered with their families for a weekend getaway at Lake Geneva, Wis. in August 2014.





**17 Kevin and Devon (Trevarrow '01) Flaherty** live in Durham, N.C. Kevin now works as a nurse at Duke University and Devon is a full-time author and publisher. They have two children, Windsor (9) and Eamon (6).

## 2002

**Emily (Richmond) Loerke** and her husband Timothy were blessed with the arrival of their daughter, Brave Richmond Loerke, April 25, 2014. They live in Louisville, Ky.

**18 Dara Johnson** married **Jason Berkhalter** '97 August 30, 2014 in Fort Wayne, Ind. **Evelyn (Aponte) Aucutt '99**, **Carrie Fields-Haq**, and **Courtney (Conroy) Perkins** were among the alumni in the wedding. The new couple lives in Fort Wayne, Ind.

## 2003

**19 Chris Atkinson** was recently appointed principal of Cherry Tree Elementary in Carmel, Ind. This appointment brings special significance because Cherry Tree is where Chris completed his Taylor student teaching before beginning

his teaching and administrative career in Carmel Clay Schools. Chris and his wife **Lindsay (Jasper)** have two boys, Asher (5) and Jesse (3). They live in Westfield, Ind.

After two years in Bangkok, Thailand, **David** and **Allison (Hoekstra) Weber** now live in Flagstaff, Ariz. David completed his PhD in Information Systems from Arizona State University and is on faculty at Northern Arizona University. Allison is a Regional Development Director at an NGO called The Exodus Road.

## 2004

**20 Laura (Dubey) Combs**, **Kristina (Kline) Whiting**, **Kate (Neyland) Rickard**, **Lindsey (Bailey) Heath**, and **Katy (Hobbs) Smith** reunited in Saugatuck, Mich., in July 2014.

## 2005

**21 Kristen (Hess) Smith** married Garrett Smith on October 26, 2013. They are expecting their first child in 2015. Kristen works as a Registered Nurse at Jay County Hospital.



## JULIENNE JOHNSON

Taylor University's Metcalf Gallery presented *Structure and Passion: Julieanne Johnson*, a show comprised of mixed media paintings and assemblage sculpture created by Julieanne Johnson '64. Johnson began her career as an art student at Taylor and has gone on to show her work in Doha, Qatar, and at multiple shows in California, among other locations. Renowned art critic and curator Peter Frank was the special guest.





— save the date —

# Heritage

WEEKEND 2015

Celebrating the Mission of  
Taylor University

APRIL 24 -25, 2015

Garrett works for the Walmart Distribution Center and is the Youth Pastor at New Beginnings Holiness Church. They live in Dunkirk, Ind.

2006

**22 Heather (Armstrong) Klompmaker** and her husband Eric were blessed with twin girls, Selah Linnae and Savannah Rachel on August 5, 2013. The family resides in Holland, Mich.

**Lindsey (Kirkbride) Moon** and her husband Brian were blessed with a baby boy, Parker Richard Moon, on December 17, 2013. The family lives in Chicago, Ill.

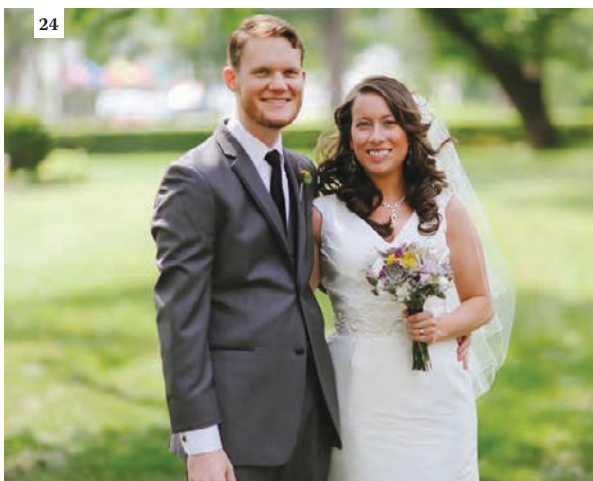
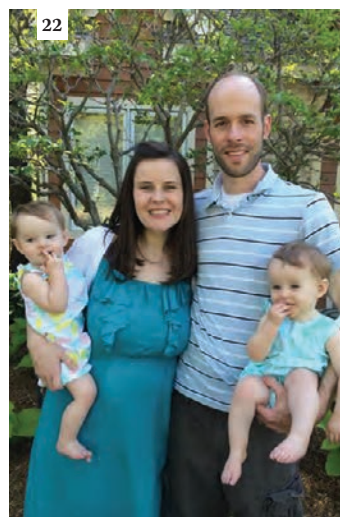
2007

**Sarah Toldt** married Joel Targgart September 13, 2014. They live in Boulder, Colo.

**Kelly Duncan** married Marc Tuzzolino March 15, 2014. The couple lives in Downers Grove, Ill.

2008

**23 Sarah Wardle** and Clifton Jones were married January 18, 2014, in Martinsville, Va. Alumni in attendance were **Leeann Ashby, Sara (Peterson) Kirkpatrick** and **Catie (Warriner) Heath**. The couple





lives in Collinsville, Va., where Clifton works as an elementary school counselor and Sarah serves as the Education Director for the Roanoke Symphony.

**24 Parker Haaga** and **Sondra Shepley** were married July 27, 2013, in College Park, Md. Alumni in attendance included: **Joanne (Grubbs '47) Shickley, Joshua Damron '06, Chad Urbanick, Kaye Patton, Eric Morse '09, and Jeff Mudge '09.** The couple lives in Washington, D.C., where Parker is a freelance graphic designer. Sondra works at Sojourners, where they met.

## 2009

**25 Peter and Charity (Smith) Schweitzer** celebrated the birth of their first child, Rhoslyn Joie, June 2, 2014, just days after their fifth wedding anniversary. Peter is a high school math teacher and Charity works for a private school from their home in Fort Wayne, Ind.

**26 Angie Poag** was married to Jason Brandon on June 14, 2014, at the Greene County Historical Museum. Taylor alumni in attendance included **Ruth Moorman** and **Katrina Lemus '10.**

**27 Chelsea Mecaskey** and **Stephen Sherrill '11** were married October 12, 2013. The couple enjoyed a honeymoon near Niagara Falls.

**28 Amy Wood** married Casey Mulvihill January 3, 2014, in Park City, Utah. They met while teaching in South Korea and will soon move to Saudi Arabia to work at an international school. Taylor friends in the wedding were **Rachel Ball '10** and **Anna Perkins '09.**

## 2010

**29 Brad and Hillary (Winship) King** and their son, Shane Avery (2), welcomed their daughter, Audrey Mae, into the family August 8, 2014. The family lives in Indianapolis, Ind., where Brad works as a Methods Validation Chemist at AIT Bioscience and Hillary stays at home full-time with the kids. The couple celebrated their third anniversary in May.

**30 Peter Semple and Victoria (Knight) Semple '12** welcomed a beautiful baby girl, Ana Michelle, into the world April 11, 2014.

## 2011

**31 Hilary Dungan and Phillip Pinegar** were married October 12, 2013, in St. Louis, Mo. Taylor alumni in the wedding party included **Alex Pinegar '03, John Pinegar '16, Mark Dungan, Jr. '13, Zach King, and Amanda Cooper.** **Elliott Pinegar '08** officiated the wedding and **Becky (Hargrave '08) Pinegar** performed music. Hilary's parents are **Mark and Judy (Oyer) Dungan '75.** Hilary and Phillip live in Washington, D.C., where Hilary works for Senator Roy Blunt and Phillip works for Senator Dan Coats.

**32 Audrey Henderson and Braden Spear '13** were married in Waco, Texas, June 29, 2013. Taylor alumni **Emily (Henderson '08) Moore** and **Colby Spear '11** served as matron of honor and best man. Audrey received her Master of Social Work from Baylor University in May of 2012. The couple lives in New York City, N.Y., where Audrey is a school social worker and Braden is an actor.

**Kayla Birt and Sarah Billman** travelled together on a train trip through the western part of the United States. Kayla and Sarah were roommates on 2nd East Olson and travelled to Taylor's Ecuador program together in 2010.

**33 Joanna McCann and Ross Springman** were wed on August 9, 2014, at the bride's home garden in Wabash, Ind. The couple met while participating in the 1EO Airband in 2008. Participating in the bridal party were **Julie (Burton) Ford, Adam Hoover, Bryan Allingham, Jay McCann '07** and **Kristen VandeBunte.** The wedding was officiated by **Alex Falder '98** and surrounded with the loving support of many Taylor alumni.

## 2012

**34 Chase Moore, Amy (Milam '11) Moore, Tyler Sahly, Anna (Fulton) Sahly, Keith Cocking, Kelly (McKevitt) Cocking, Karl Anderson and Christine (Williams) Anderson** came together for their 2nd annual reunion in July. The four men lived together senior year in an off-campus house and all of their wives went to Taylor as well. All were married the summer of 2012 and were in each other's weddings.

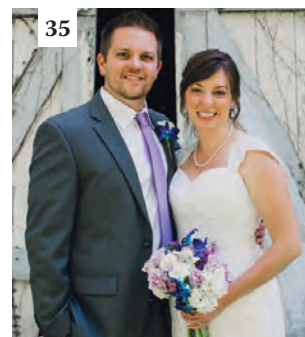
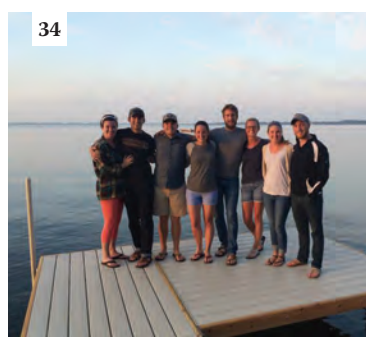
**35 Amanda Steinbeck and Jake McCurry MA '14** met while attending Taylor's Masters of Higher Education and Student Development program, graduated on May 24, 2014, and were married May 25, 2014. Now residing in Longview Texas, Amanda works at East Texas Baptist University as a Coordinator of International



Admissions and Services and Jake is a Resident Director at LeTourneau University. Taylor alumni in the wedding party were **Allison Steinbeck '15**, **Rebekah (Babb '13) Briggs**, **Jessica Clark MA '14**, and **Jeff Aupperle MA '14**, with photographers **Troy Tiberi '99** and **Traci (Tiberi '96) Falder**.

## 2014

**36 Courtney Jameson** was awarded the Julie L. Atz Scholarship of Noble County Community Foundation toward her Masters in Vocal Performance work at Indiana University this fall. Courtney studied vocal performance while at Taylor and was an assistant conductor of the Taylor University Chorale along with many other musical involvements throughout campus.



TAYLOR UNIVERSITY OCTOBER 9-11, 2015



PARENTS & FAMILY  
— WEEKEND —

faith, philanthropy  
& change

June 8-9, 2015

*Save The Date*

Join us for the second annual conference,  
hear from compelling speakers and  
network with Taylor alumni and friends  
serving in the nonprofit world.



# Celebrating Taylor's Family Legacies

Fifty-nine new Taylor students representing 58 families and 78 Taylor University alumni – these members of Taylor's incoming Class of 2013 continue the legacy started by their parents and in some cases their grandparents! Thank you for trusting us with your sons and daughters, and for your faithfulness to Taylor's mission to develop servant leaders marked with a passion to minister Christ's redemptive love and truth to a world in need! These photos may not represent every family, but we are grateful to God for all who have entrusted their sons and daughters to our care!



Baird



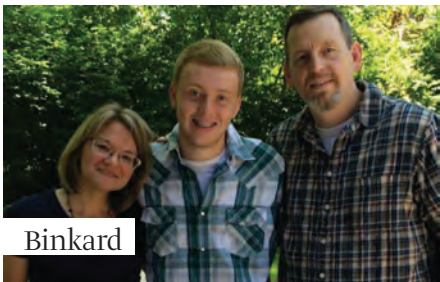
Baron



Benson



Bertka



Binkard



Brown



Chartland



Coalter



Crabb



Duncan



Flores



Gammage



Gramling



Hapner



Hursey



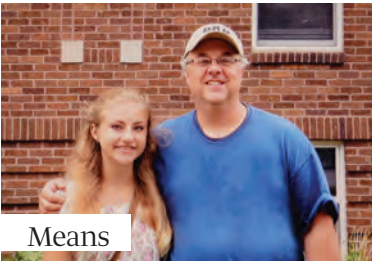
Lehman



Love & Walton



Macintosh



Means



Miller



Meleski



Midgley



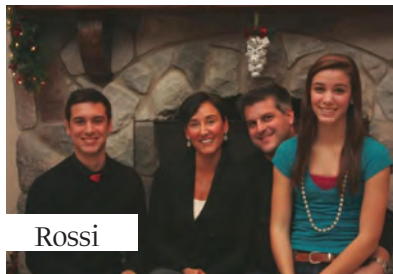
Oliver



Potter



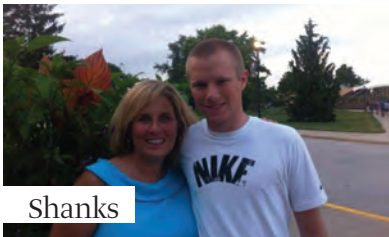
Powell



Rossi



Roggenbaum



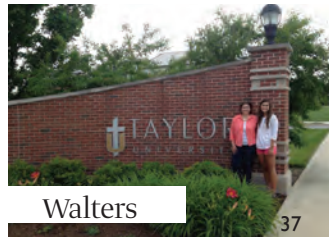
Shanks



Sumney



Vandegriff



Walters



# towel COMMUNITY

WITHIN TAYLOR'S COMMUNITY THE GREATEST EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP AND THE HIGHEST PRINCIPLE FOR RELATIONSHIPS IS LOVE. CONSEQUENTLY, TAYLOR GRADUATES RECEIVE A TOWEL AS A REMINDER THAT WHILE THEIR YEARS AT TAYLOR HAVE EQUIPPED THEM... IT IS IN SUBMISSION THAT THEY FIND MEANING.

"DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I HAVE DONE FOR YOU?...NOW THAT I, YOUR LORD AND TEACHER, HAVE WASHED YOUR FEET, YOU ALSO SHOULD WASH ONE ANOTHER'S FEET. I HAVE SET YOU AN EXAMPLE THAT YOU SHOULD DO AS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU."

THE WAY OF THE TOWEL DOES NOT BEGIN WITH OUR COMMITMENT, IT BEGINS WITH HIS...

WATCH AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH DR. KEVIN DILLER '93 ABOUT THE WAY OF THE TOWEL.



DO YOU KNOW A STUDENT WHO IS SUBMITTED TO CHRIST, WHO MIGHT BE A GOOD FIT FOR TAYLOR'S DISTINCT DISCIPLESHIP COMMUNITY?

Put Taylor's Admissions office in touch with your student today.  
admissions@taylor.edu  
800.882.3456





WE WILL BE  
INTENTIONAL.  
TOGETHER, WE WILL  
BE TRANSFORMED.

This special 8-page section, pulled from a larger document, illustrates how the new Campus Center makes possible the intentional interactions that define the Taylor experience. The following pages show how the Campus Center will strengthen Taylor's strategic impact, provide an overview of the building, and give an invitation to participate in this project.

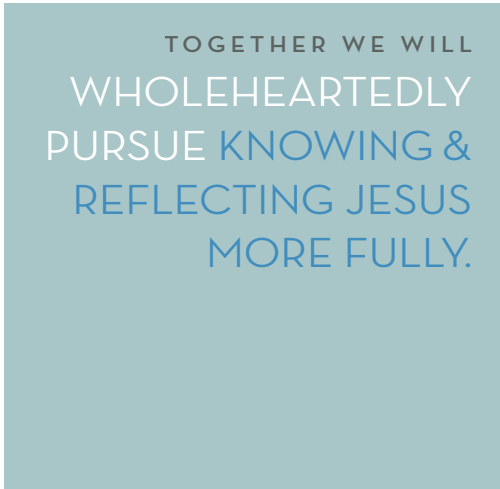
**As of press time, we are \$1.9 million from the \$20 million total. Completing that goal would allow construction to begin this spring and the building to open in spring 2016.**

Sara Hightower '07



WE WILL BE  
INTENTIONAL.  
TOGETHER, WE WILL  
BE TRANSFORMED.

TOGETHER WE WILL  
WHOLEHEARTEDLY  
PURSUE KNOWING &  
REFLECTING JESUS  
MORE FULLY.



Grant Henry '15



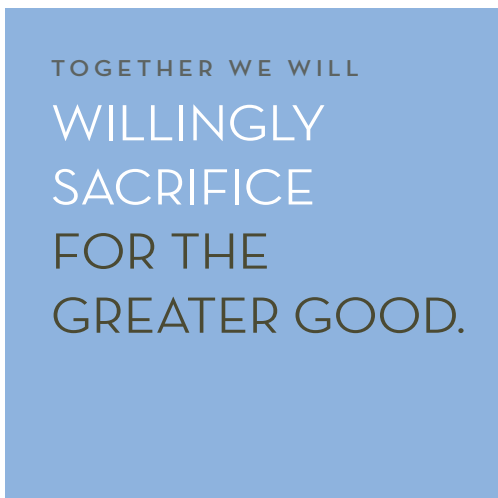
TOGETHER WE WILL  
ACTIVELY  
LEARN TO LOVE  
THE LORD WITH  
ALL OUR MIND.



Amanda Roden '15



TOGETHER WE WILL  
WILLINGLY  
SACRIFICE  
FOR THE  
GREATER GOOD.



Jerchovia Moxey '15



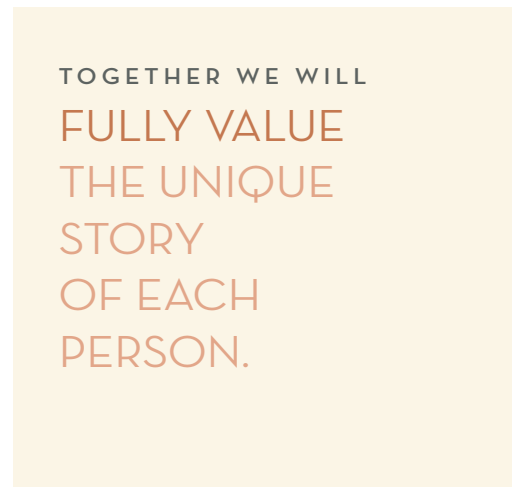
TOGETHER WE WILL  
REGULARLY  
GATHER  
FOR WORSHIP.



Nicole Arpin '17

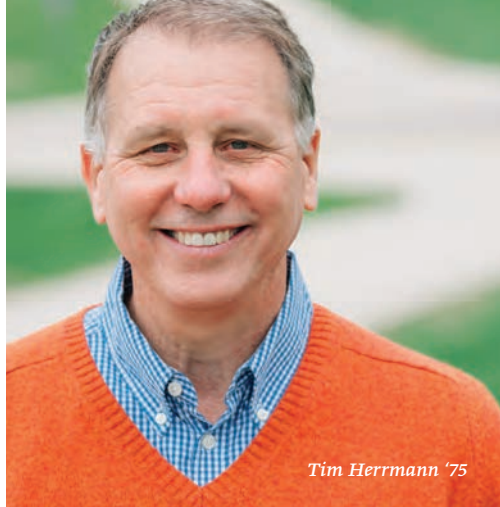


TOGETHER WE WILL  
FULLY VALUE  
THE UNIQUE  
STORY  
OF EACH  
PERSON.





TOGETHER WE WILL  
WARMLY  
ENGAGE  
WITH THE  
EXTENDED  
TAYLOR FAMILY.



*Tim Herrmann '75*

INTENTIONALITY  
DEFINES TAYLOR.

The Campus Center allows us to amplify our mission and our commitment to the nine areas of strategic impact identified here.



*Sophie Welch '16*

TOGETHER WE WILL  
PASSIONATELY  
SERVE THE WORLD  
AROUND US.



*Kaitlin Kinnius '16*

TOGETHER WE WILL  
FAITHFULLY  
RESPOND  
TO OUR  
GOD-GIVEN  
CALLING.



*Will Severns '15*

The mission of Taylor University is to develop servant leaders marked with a passion to minister Christ's redemptive love and truth to a world in need.



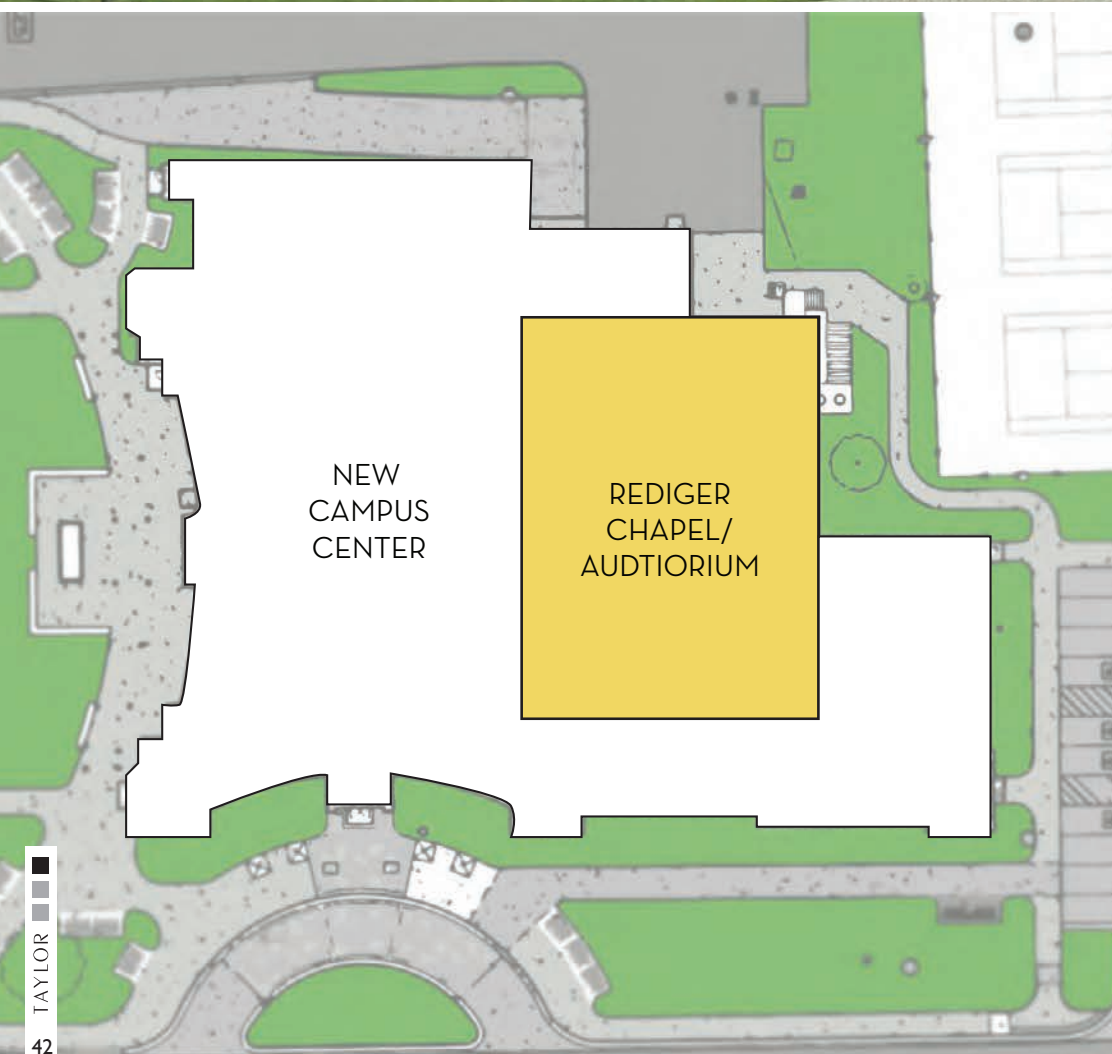
*Kaitlin Kinnius '16*

TOGETHER WE WILL  
PURPOSELY  
CULTIVATE  
WHOLENESS IN  
OURSELVES &  
OTHERS.



*Amy Nicols '15*







Intentionality defines Taylor. It's who we've been and who we are, and Lord willing, will define us in the years to come. It is the "Taylor Way." The new Campus Center provides essential space for strengthening the intentional, frequent and purposeful interactions at Taylor.

As we consider the future, there are uncertainties, questions, and challenges regarding higher education. In addressing them, we must be more true than ever before to what makes Taylor, "Taylor." Amid strong trends toward a variety of education models, Taylor intentionally stands apart in our commitment to remain a primarily residential campus where students are developed holistically and are known by faculty, staff, and one another.

The current Student Union, "the Dome," was built in the 1950s for a much different time and a much smaller university. When it was constructed, there were 600 students and now there are 2,000; there were 3,000 alumni and now there are 20,000.

If we want to "add" or even "multiply" the interactions that are so foundational to Taylor—faculty-to-student, staff-to-student, student-to-student, alumni-to-student—then we literally must have more space and more places for interactions to occur.

Two years of prayer and collaboration went into what we believe is a carefully conceived, thoughtfully designed, and especially inviting space located literally and spiritually in the heart of Taylor's campus.

The 49,000 square foot Campus Center will surround the renovated Rediger Chapel/Auditorium.

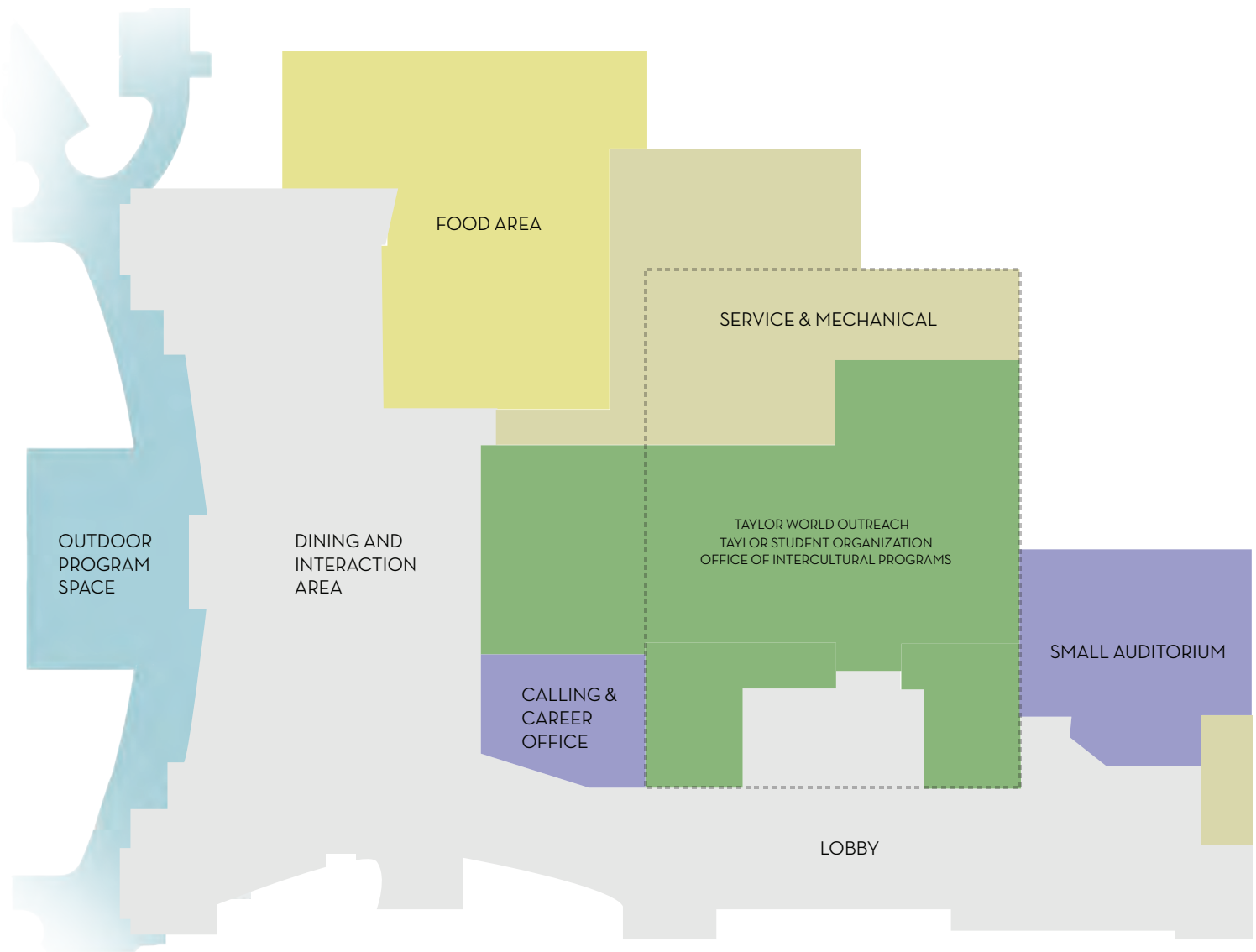
*After beginning the school year with \$4.1 million toward the \$20 million Campus Center, a total of \$18.1 million has been identified.*

After the remaining \$1.9 million is identified, ground can be broken as early as spring 2015. The building could then be completed and open for use by Spring 2016, allowing current juniors to use the building.

This new facility will indeed be the center of life at Taylor and symbolic of its highest purpose. It will be named, quite appropriately, for LaRita Boren who gave so much of herself to the students at the University.

*As depicted below, the first floor of the new 49,000 square foot LaRita R. Boren Campus Center will be home to the Grille, Jumping Bean coffee shop, the Office of Intercultural Programs, and the Calling and Career Office.*

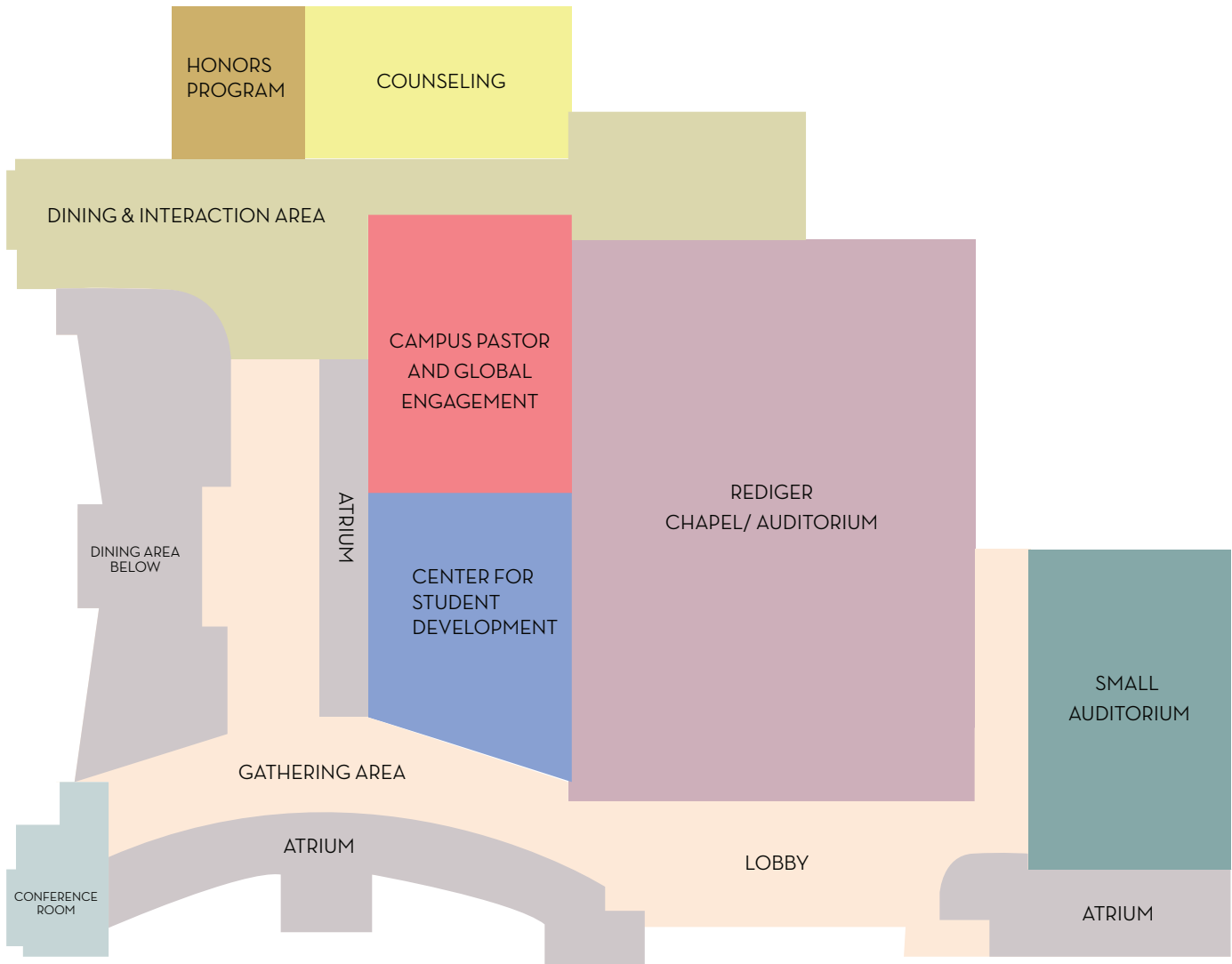
The new construction, along with a renovation of the current Stuart Room and the lower level of Rediger, will also provide substantial space for student leadership and for student ministries—local and global. The Campus Center will add an overflow seating area that accommodates more than 280 additional students, faculty, staff, and guests to have a high-quality Chapel experience in the same building.





*In this design we will update and refresh the interior of the Chapel, which has not changed since renovated in 1975 from being Maytag Gymnasium. In addition to space for dining and interaction, the second floor provides improved space for counseling and for the Honors Program, and it brings together all of Student Development.*

It will be the home for the Spencer Centre for Global Engagement and the Campus Pastor. It will also include a special meeting area and conference room that offers a panoramic view of the campus. There will be a significant foyer on two levels that extends the opportunity for interaction before and after Chapel. Even as Rediger Chapel/Auditorium is surrounded by the Campus Center, it will continue to reflect its special identity.



# Help make the new Campus Center a reality.

More than \$18.1 million has been given to ward the \$20 million goal, as of mid-November, and we are actively working to identify the final \$1.9 million by early 2015. Thanks to a generous investment, your Campus Center gift will be matched. There are many opportunities to invest in the intentional interactions that are a hallmark of the Taylor experience, for example:

- \$250 provides a chair in the main dining area
- \$1,000 provides for a naming opportunity for a seat in the renovated Rediger Chapel/Auditorium
- \$5,000 furnishes an office or student work area
- \$10,000 - \$1,000,000 helps to construct key areas and locations

*We can imagine 2,500 gifts being necessary for this project to become a reality. To see a fly-through of the new LaRita R. Boren Campus Center or to give a gift online, go to [www.taylor.edu/campuscenter](http://www.taylor.edu/campuscenter)*

*For more information contact Dr. Ben Sells, Vice President for University Advancement at 765-998-5389 or [ben.sells@taylor.edu](mailto:ben.sells@taylor.edu)*





# Save the Date for Homecoming 2015

OCTOBER 23-25, 2015 & REFLECT ON HOMECOMING 2014



## ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS 2014

More than 700 Taylor alumni and friends enjoyed reunions and special events during Taylor's Homecoming. Distinguished Alumni/Alumna Awards were presented to (from left) Joy Sylvester-Johnson '72, Rollin Ford '84, Tamara (Shaya '08) Hoffmann, Charles "Chip" Jagers '69, and Joseph Miller '89 (pictured with Gene and Marylou (Napolitano '68) Habecker '68). The weekend's highlight was the Class of '64's record reunion gift of \$4.26 million dollars.



Members of the Class of '64 announced in chapel \$4.26 million reunion gift - the largest class gift in Taylor's history.



Hall of Fame Coach Bob Davenport H '76 (center, front row) and members of the Trojan conference championship teams from 1962, '63 and '64.



Dr. Chip Jagers speaks to the Class of '69 reunion that was held at the Muselman House.



# Pruning

FOR HEALTH & IMPROVED GROWTH

## PRUNING – FOR HEALTH AND IMPROVED GROWTH

DR. EUGENE B. HABECKER '68

*Imagine yourself in the Garden of Gethsemane on the night before Jesus' crucifixion. As Jesus and his beloved disciples moved among the grove of trees, Jesus evoked the image of a gardener or vinedresser to describe the work God does in the lives of each believer and the Church. The vinedresser prunes the branches so that better and more fruit will result. The pruning process helps to restore the tree to even greater health and allows it to grow, even flourish. It is a regular process, as those who have fruit trees and rose bushes know.*

On its surface, it seems counterproductive, this idea pruning, and yet we know from Jesus' words and from our personal lives that it is a necessary, even vital action. The principle applies to our personal lives and even to a vital, living place like Taylor University.

It is an exercise that we have done here at Taylor University throughout the years and will continue to do in the future. I believe the next three years will bring unprecedented opportunities and challenges to Taylor, and it is critical for the long term health of our beloved institution that we address these challenges in forthright, Christ-honoring ways. In addition to our upcoming reaccreditation efforts, we are also hard at work crafting new strategic directions – Strategic Directions 2026 – a process to build upon what was begun by Vision 2016. We also face an increasingly active, regulatory federal government and a culture that seems to be moving inexorably into even sharper contrast with what we understand to be the call of Christ.

Added to these challenges is the fact that Taylor University does not have unlimited resources. We are called to exercise wisdom and grace in the use of the time, talent and financial resources that have been entrusted to us. Opportunity for Taylor lies in accepting these realities, anticipating their impact, and in seeking innovative ways to mitigate them, to thrive despite them, and widen our margins for excellence. To that end, we have embarked on a more formal programmatic review of everything we do as a university, with an eye toward this sort of pruning and cost reduction – in essence, perhaps saying “no” to some things today, so we can say “yes” to other things tomorrow.

A book that has helped nuance my thinking in this regard is Henry Cloud's *Necessary Endings*. In it, he argues that “pruning growth,” the process of removing those items that hinder the overall health of an organism, is a necessary annual process in nature that is essential before more growth can take place. Not pruning actually hinders not only prospects for future growth, but the organism's overall health.

Cloud suggests that in our lives and in organizations like Taylor, we need to consider three kinds of pruning to ensure growth and future health: 1) those initiatives that siphon away resources that could go to others with more promise, 2) those endeavors that may be sick and may not get well, and 3) past efforts that no longer provide the desired fruit.

This process at Taylor must be one that is strategic, based on overall organizational priorities, collaboration, our history, and importantly, our Christ-centered values. Going forward, it is my conviction that this type of ongoing assessment should be a normal and on-going exercise for the university. This programmatic review will involve all parts of the university as we re-think our work together. Will this task be difficult? Yes. But it is absolutely necessary to our future. Not dealing with these challenges will not make them go away. It just will simply defer them and make them even harder to face in the future.



I'm confident there will be multiple synergies and new opportunities for growth that will emerge from all of these collective efforts that will help make us more focused, bring us to a new level of collectively-agreed upon and owned excellence, and in the long run, enhance our overall effectiveness in the accomplishment of our mission, thus ensuring there will continue to be a Taylor University – all for the glory of God.

*Dr. Eugene B. Habecker '68 serves as President of Taylor University.*



# THE TAYLOR FUND

KEEPING TAYLOR, TAYLOR FOR THIS GENERATION—AND THE NEXT.



**1974**

Grace Olson left her mark at Taylor through years of service as an esteemed history professor and an academic and spiritual leader on campus. In 1974 a women's residence hall was named in her honor.



**2014**

Senior Kehlay Dunah lived in Grace Olson hall, and served the women on her wing as a Personnel Assistant. This year, she is the Student Body President. We look forward to seeing where God calls her next.

**YOU+**  
**TAYLOR FUND**  
**EQUALS SCHOLARSHIPS**

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[TAYLOR.EDU/TAYLORFUND](http://TAYLOR.EDU/TAYLORFUND)

MAKE YOUR GIFT ONLINE OR USE  
THE ENVELOPE INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE.



## HEEDING THE CALL

The second statue of Taylor's Samuel Morris Statue Garden, is one of the photos featured on Taylor University's Instagram page! Follow us for more great campus photography @tayloruniv.